

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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- When the Communists consolidated their control over Bulgaria in 1946-1947, certain Communist intellectuals demanded that the old Bulgarian Academy of Sciences be dissolved and that a completely new selection of members be made. Todor Pavlov, who had already been elected member and president, insisted that the old membership be retained in toto and that new members be elected to make up an enlarged Academy capable of solving the much larger tasks assigned to it by the Communist State. Pavlov's views were accepted by Georgi Dimitrov, and the Academy was built up to a total membership of 46 regular and 46 corresponding members. The majority of the regular members were elected before 1944, whereas the corresponding members are all Communists. Approximately seven of the regulars have died since 1946, and one, Petko Stoyanov, was expelled.

- the present Academy of Sciences, based on the Communist slogan of "Science (must work) for Life," is spending more money on research and sponsoring more projects of lasting practical value than any previous regime. even when one eliminates the pseudo scientific work done in the various fields to prove one or the other of the preconceived Communist theories, the constructive theoretical and practical work done by non-Communist and even Communist scientists is remarkable;

- In 1944 the Academy of Sciences supported one research institute, "Bulgarian Book," headed then, as now, by Professor Romanski, whereas today there are 33 institutes; and

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b. In 1944 the budget of the Academy was 4,000,000 leva (old rate), whereas the 1953 budget was over 20,000,000 leva (old rate).

3. The largest part of the activity of the Academy is concerned with natural resources, plant growth, and animal husbandry. The institutes dealing with these subjects get the bulk of the appropriations. The division of the funds is made by the Scientific Secretary of the Academy, but is approved by the governing council of the Academy.

4. The Academy is directly subordinate to the Ministerial Council, with Deputy Prime Minister Georgi Chankov handling the contact. The problems and assignments to be worked on by the 33 institutes run by the Academy are determined by one of three bodies:

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- a. The Institutes which comprise the Academy of Sciences;
- b. The State Planning Commission; or
- c. The functional offices of the various Ministries.

The assignments are always coordinated and issued in their final form by the Council of the Academy which determines priorities. Copies of all Academy studies go to the State Planning Commission.

5. The Natural Resources (Geology) Institute of the Academy, headed by Strashimir Dimitrov, is one of the most active institutes and is undoubtedly encouraged by the Soviet government. As a result of continuing exploration by teams directed by the Institute, new exploitable deposits of copper and other colored metals have been located in the western portion of the Balkan range (roughly west of the Iskŭr River). Uranium deposits have been located at Bukhovo and Kremikovtsi.

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6. A second active Institute is the one devoted to plant growth. It is headed by an unidentified Communist who has conducted extensive experiments on the stimulation of growth by treatment of the seeds and on seed selection. He has recently been given a tract of 100,000 decares of land for an experimental farm. The results of this and other experiments are generally published.

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7. The Biological Institute, headed by Dr. Metodi Popov, is also active, but it is not engaged in biological warfare experiments. Other Institutes are:

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- a. Animal Husbandry Institute, headed by Khristo Khlebarov;
- b. Social Medicine, headed by Khristanov (fnu), a Communist;
- c. Experimental Medicine, develops new drugs, (unidentified chief); and
- d. Soil Studies, headed by Dr. Stranski.

8. The institutes listed in paragraphs six and seven are grouped together as the "Nature Study Section" of the Academy of Sciences. In many instances these institutes work together in a symposium in solving a given problem. For instance, the Academy was given the problem of determining why the Bulgarian export of canned tomatoes was not profitable. The various institutes of the Academy tackled the claim of the tomato industry that the tomato currently used for canning whole was unsatisfactory, as only 20 percent could be canned. The variety was such that the remainder could not be used for making tomato paste. The study by the Academy not only dealt with the selection of a better variety of tomato and suggestions for better soil care, but went into the operating procedures of the canning factories to prove that the figures on loss were inaccurate. The coordination of the study was done by Khristo Daskalov and Raina Popova.

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9. Another joint study of the Academy was on the problems of reforestation, drainage, etc. created by building a dam across the Iskür River at Pasarel (on the Sofia-Samokov highway). The Academy had to determine what crops could best be grown on the land which appears as the waters of the lake recede during the dry period.
10. The scientific equipment used by the various institutes of the Academy comes largely from Czechoslovakia and East Germany. The only major item contributed by the USSR during 1952 was an electronic microscope.
11. Like every other institution in a Communist State, the Academy of Sciences has its own Party cell. In principle, the cell does not interfere in the current work of the Academy, but it interferes frequently and decisively in personnel matters, such as appointments, dismissals, and the ideological training of Academy members. The Academy also belongs to the Professional Union (Prof-Suyuz), and at the Prof-Suyuz council meetings the janitor frequently has as much to say as the president.
12. Each member of the Academy of Sciences receives a basic monthly salary of 1,600 leva (new rate). In addition, he receives a salary as head or member of one of the institutes and/or as member of the governing council. Whereas, in the Soviet Union, the "Academicians" receive the total of the various salaries, in Bulgaria each person receives only a portion of the salaries due from secondary employment. The total monthly salary of the Scientific Secretary of the Academy, who is also head of the institutes and head of the Physiological Department of the Sofia University Medical School, is approximately 3,000 leva (new rate). This compares with the following wages and salaries of other employees:
  - a. Day laborer, 400 to 500 leva;
  - b. Doctor with long experience, 800 to 1,000 leva;
  - c. Civil servants, 750 to 800 leva; and
  - d. University professors, 1,600 to 2,000 leva (usually a total from several jobs).

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